

COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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CENTER DOTS

**ON
NEW JERSEY REVERSES
?**

Sequential page 538

● ● **CENTER DOTS on the Reverses of New Jersey Coppers**
from ye Editor

(TN-56)

Recently ye Editor had the opportunity to examine a number of excellent photographs of individual New Jersey coppers as well as several prints of complete Maris plates. One outstanding feature was noted that seems to have escaped earlier students of the New Jersey series. It appears to ye Editor that quite a few of the reverses exhibit unmistakable "center dots" similiar to those found on the Massachusetts silver.

These center dots appear to have been used with a compass to scribe circular layout lines on the die faces. These lines were then used by the die sinker as an aid in punch placement of the individual legend letters. An enlargement of reverse v on the frontispiece of this issue shows the center dot at the top of the center pale just below the chief of the shield. It appears in approximately the same location on the other reverses tabulated on page 540.

The illustration below demonstrates this point. Using an ordinary drafting compass and lead we have reconstructed on the photograph of reverse v these guide lines at both top and bottom of the letters. The compass point was placed on the center dot and the circular arcs swung across the letter bases and tops to show the general methodology of the die sinker.



It is evident that the scribe lines themselves, probably lightly marked on the die faces, were eliminated during the final die finishing but the more deeply indented center dots remained.

Based on the examination of the photographs, ye Editor believes that center dots are visible on the following New Jersey reverses:

v, gg, i, dd, d, S, Z, Y, T, L and J

and possibly on aa, c, t, g, y and P

Our Patrons are requested to examine specimens that they may have in their collections to verify or refute those varieties listed above, and to add any additional reverses that they may discover.

This characteristic of some New Jersey reverse dies, and not others, may aid in eventually sorting out with greater certainty than presently exists, the attribution of specific dies to individual die sinkers believed to have manufactured them.



MORE on the AUCTORI PLEBIS & RELATED PIECES

(TN-50A)

Since the publication of the initial comments on the AUCTORI PLEBIS by Charles V. Duncan (TN-50, CNL. pp 476-479), two of our Patrons have provided specimens of two additional tokens bearing the AUCTORI PLEBIS legend, and we have learned of another but have not yet obtained a satisfactory photograph. This makes a total, at present, of four different Bust Right varieties.

Both of the new varieties are Bust Right specimens of halfpenny size with the HISPANIOLA reverse. Enlarged illustrations of each are shown on p. 541. Our sincere thanks to our Patrons Frederick B. Taylor and Dr. Brian Altman for supplying specimens and foil impressions of these two varieties for examination.

Additional research has established that the AUCTORI PLEBIS are classified, rather loosely, as either Atkins 7 (Bust Left) or Atkins 8 for the Bust Right from the listing by James Atkins in The Tradesmen's Tokens of the Eighteenth Century (Lincoln & Sons, London, 1892) where, on page 385, they are listed under the heading "Imitation of the Regal Coinage." The Atkins 7 is the usually encountered Bust Left specimen bearing the effigy resembling the Draped Bust Left Connecticut Coppers. Atkins 8 apparently covers a number of different Bust Right specimens exhibiting blank or HISPANIOLA reverses. None of these are listed in Dalton & Hamer!



Number 3



Number 4

A partial reproduction of page 385 from "Atkins" is shown below. The total listing of "Imitation of the Regal Coinage" covers some ten pages and lists 450 halfpenny size varieties.

The initials *R* or *L* on obv: denotes bust looking to right, or left, as the case may be, and those of *f* or *h*, on rev: will denote a figure seated, more or less resembling Britannia; or the harp for Ireland.

HALFPENNIES.

OBSERVE.		REVERSE.	
1. <i>R</i> .	* ADMIRAL JERVIS *	<i>f</i> .	RULE BRI TANNIA. <i>Ex</i> : 1797
2. "	AL FRED	"	BRI TON'S " GLORY
3. "	ALFRED THE GREAT	<i>h</i> .	* MUSIC. CHARMS
4. "	" "	"	* SOUTH WALES *
5. "	" "	<i>f</i> .	UNITY AND PEACE
6. <i>L</i> .	ALFRED. THE. GREAT	<i>h</i> .	SHEBERNIA " 17-96
7. "	* AUCTORI ** PLEBIS *	<i>f</i> .	* INDEP: ET. LIBER * <i>Ex</i> : 1787
8. <i>R</i> .	" "	<i>h</i> .	HISPANIOLA 17-36
9. <i>L</i> .	BRUTUS SEXTUS	<i>f</i> .	BEL ONA <i>Ex</i> : 1777
10. "	" "	"	BRITAN. NIA " 1771
11. "	" "	"	BRITANNIA RULES " "
12. "	" "	"	BRITONS RULE " 1772
13. "	" "	"	DELECTAT. RUS. " 1773
14. "	" "	"	NOBIEGTA " 1696
15. "	" "	<i>h</i> .	NORTH WALES 1769

In the interest of ease in future communication, we have assigned the following temporary numerical designators for the known varieties:

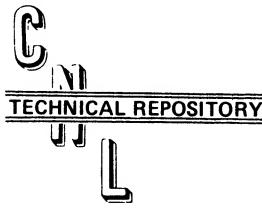
- No. 1 The "regular" Bust Left variety resembling the Connecticut Copper, with INDEP ET LIBER reverse.
- No. 2 The Bust Right variety with blank reverse illustrated in CNL, p.476.
- No. 3 Bust Right with HISPANIOLA reverse and 17-3366 date.
- No. 4 Bust Right with initials IC below bust and 17-36 date.
- No. 5 (Reserved for the uniface variety illustrated by Howard H. Kurth, Plate IX - Figure 3, "Numismatic Review", September 1943).

Additional varieties will be listed sequentially as they are identified.

Charles V. Duncan is preparing a plate of all known varieties bearing the AUCTORI PLEBIS legend. We believe that several additional obverses exist and ask our Patrons assistance in obtaining specimens or photographs for use on this plate. Please examine specimens in your collections or stock to determine whether they are the same or different from those illustrated to date in CNL. Thanks. JCS



GLEANINGS from the



(G-1)

● ● ● from The Franklin Journal; Vol. 1, No. 2., February 1826, pp. 97-99.

ON HARDENING STEEL DIES at the First United States Mint

Mr. Editor, - I avail myself of the opportunity you offer, to record in your useful repository, the observations made by ingenious practical mechanics, in the prosecution of their respective arts. It will no doubt comport with your views, to give merit to its just due, by stating the origin of processes already known, as well as to make the knowledge of them, more extensive.

The management of steel for nice purposes in the arts, is of vast importance, and requires considerable practical skill; it has consequently been made the subject of numerous experiments, which within the course of a few years have resulted in the discovery of many improvements. The general method of hardening this metal, is to heat it red hot, and then plunge it into cold water, and sometimes into mercury, in order to reduce its temperature as quickly as possible; to effect this cooling with the requisite rapidity, the article when plunged, is moved about, in order to expose it to new surfaces of the cold fluid. This method answers in general, with small or thin pieces of steel, but not when the mass is considerable; in this case, the article frequently breaks in the operation, or is hardened at the edges only; from this cause much inconvenience, and great loss, have frequently resulted to those interested in the hardening of steel dies, for striking medals, coins, &c. This has been frequently experienced in the mint of the United States; the dies after being completely finished, excepting the process of hardening, were very often destroyed in this attempt; or if they passed safely through this ordeal, were found to be incapable of sustaining the severe and repeated blows to which they, in their use, were subjected. An intimate friend of the writer, it is believed, was the first person who succeeded in obviating these difficulties so completely, that not the slightest danger is now apprehended from the process.

Mr. Adam Eckfeldt, the present chief coiner in the mint, a very ingenious practical mechanic, whose original profession was that of a smith, was employed in the infant state of the establishment, to manage this department. Aware that the cause of the frequent failures in the process alluded to, was the sudden contraction of the steel on the outside, whilst the inside was in a heated and expanded state, causing the outer hardened and brittle coat of steel to crack or burst, he adopted the following expedient. He caused a vessel holding 200 gallons of water, to be placed in the upper part of the building, at the height of 40 feet above the room in which the dies were hardened; from this vessel, the water was conducted down through a pipe of one inch and a quarter in diameter, with a cock at the bottom, and nozzles of different sizes, to regulate the diameter of the jet of water. Under one of these was placed the heated die, the water being directed on the centre of the upper surface. The first experiment was tried in the year 1795, and the same mode has been ever since pursued, without a single instance of failure.

By this process the die is hardened in such a way, as best to sustain the pressure to which it is to be subjected, and the middle of the face, which by the former process was apt to remain soft, now becomes the hardest part. The hardened part of the die so managed, were it to be separated, would be found to be in the form of a segment of a sphere, resting in the lower soft part, as in a dish; the hardness of course gradually decreasing as you descend towards the foot. Dies thus hardened, preserve their forms until they are fairly worn out.

I am aware that the above mode is now in frequent use, as Mr. Eckfeldt never wished to keep it secret; a gentleman of the mint, communicated the process to a friend in Birmingham, England, where, it is believed, it was not previously known.

Should you think the above information worth publishing, you will probably receive some other communications, containing improvements effected by the same gentleman.

Yours very respectfully,

K.

GLEANINGS is a new Feature Series of The Colonial Newsletter. Over the years many very short articles & notices related to numismatic activity have appeared in journals, newspapers and other publications - some of them quite obscure. The purpose of **GLEANINGS** is to bring these to the attention of our Patrons and to elicit whatever comments you may care to submit. The comments will be published in future issues.

OBSERVATIONS REGARDING "ON HARDENING STEEL DIES at the
First United States Mint" --- The Eckfeldt Process ---

(G-1A)

●● from ye Editor

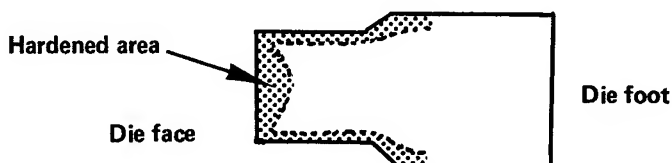
The following observations presented by ye Editor illustrate the sort of commentary that we would like to obtain from our Patrons on "Gleanings" as they are published in CNL.

In the present case one of the first obvious questions regards the identity of Mr. "K". He was evidently someone quite familiar with and interested in the workings of the early U.S.Mint. Our conjecture is that the article was very likely submitted to The Franklin Journal by Mr. William Kneass who in 1824 had been appointed to the position of Mint Engraver, succeeding Robert Scott, and who served in this capacity until his death, in office, on August 27, 1843.

The really surprising aspect of the article is the fact that it relates an advanced technique for hardening coinage dies that is radically different from the general notion, held by some even today, that these early dies were hardened by swishing them around in a bucket of water. Equally interesting is the remark that a gentleman "communicated the process to a friend in Birmingham England where it is believed it was not previously known." Here we have evidence that American technology - developed as early as 1795 - was being exported to England (and probably to the Soho Mint!).

This is also suggested in another published commentary. In the year 1833 Dr. Samuel Moore, Director of the U.S.Mint, in a letter to Mr. Franklin Peale regarding his assignments on a trip to France to review the methods of the Paris Mint, made the statement "... The process in use with us for hardening dies, employed here since 1796, which is also due to Mr. Eckfeldt, it is believed has been adapted in England ..."

If our interpretation of Mr. K's description is correct, a cross section of a die hardened by the "Eckfeldt Process" would exhibit a hardened area similar to that in the following sketch:



While Mr. K and Dr. Moore both attribute the process to Adam Eckfeldt, the Editor is tempted to speculate that there were two other individuals also at the U.S. Mint at that time, both of whom were experienced with dies and coinage during the production of the New Jersey Coppers and who could certainly have contributed to the development of the process, or even used it, in those earlier years. They were Albion Cox and John Harper!

A search of subsequent issues of The Franklin Journal for "some other communication" as suggested by Mr. K has revealed no other information on this particular subject.



ON THE IMPORTATION of 1749 HALFPENCE and FARTHINGS

(TN-57)

● ● from Raymond H. Williamson; Lynchburg, Virginia

John M. Sallay's article "The Depreciation of the Massachusetts Currency and the Effects of the Redemption in 1750" is superb. This letter is to add one little item -- without detracting an iota from the presentation -- that I believe is relevant. That item is with respect to the next-to-last paragraph which states: "Numismatically the importation accounts for the frequent appearance of nice specimens of English halfpence and farthings dated 1749 in accumulations dating from the period. If one is to use the criterion of circulation as a medium of exchange for the determination of which coins to include in a collection of colonial coins, the 1749 halfpence and farthings stand out as one of the prime requirements of a complete collection because of the wide circulation resulting from the abundance caused by this importation." (CNL, p. 529).

To this quote, I want to add another applying to a period over a century later: "... their appeals to the home government were vain till 1749, when ten tons of copper money were exported to Massachusetts. At the present day (1861) we find among the old copper in circulation many very fine specimens of English half-pennies of 1749, always in better condition than any other year. It may be owing to this importation that these coins remain in America in such fine preservation." The quotation is from page 66 of W.C. Prime's book of 1861 "Coins, Medals and Seals, ..."; this paragraph previously appeared in CNL in January 1971 in the reprint of a part of this book, page CMS-5.



The DISCOVERY of CROSBY'S "MISSING LETTER"
on the CLOSING in 1684 of the MASSACHUSETTS MINT.

(TN-58)

● ● from Raymond H. Williamson; Lynchburg, Virginia

In Sylvester S. Crosby's monumental "Early Coins of America & etc." (Boston, 1875), Crosby, on page 91, concluded that an examination of a missing letter of 24 November 1684 would prove that coinage at the Boston Mint had been stopped before the date of the letter. The paragraph from "Crosby" is as follows (emphasis added):

It appears certain, however, that coining was discontinued, and the mint abandoned, as early as 1684, as may be seen from the letter of the officers of the king's mint, already given, dated January 15th, 1684 (-5,) referring to a letter dated November 24th, 1684, which spoke of "a Mint w^{ch} hath been hitherto kept up & employed at Boston in New England,"—a vague expression, but explained by a later sentence in the same, where the officers state, "Wee are humbly of opinian, if his Maj^{ty} shal think fitt to Settle a Mint in N E," and also by a reference in the letter of July 15, 1686, from the same, to the lord high treasurer of England, where they say, "Wee haue Considered of the papers enclosed to us in y^e s^d Letter concerning a Mint to be reëstablish in New England, & doe find that vpon alike reference from y^e L^{ds} Com^{rs} of the Treasury of y^e 24 Nov^r, 1684, of this Matter," thus proving that the letter of November 24th, 1684, had reference to the reëstablishment of the mint, which, as a matter of course, must previously have been discontinued.

The exact closing date is but a detail in the numismatic history of this mint, but Crosby thought it important enough to devote several pages to the subject. The Boston coining operation must have indeed terminated prior to the letter of 15 July 1686 (cited by Crosby on pages 90 & 91) which discussed reestablishment of the mint in New England.

We have available today Crosby's "missing letter" and it is reproduced in slightly reduced size on page 548. This letter of 24 November 1684, is from Henry Guy, Esqr., Secy to the Right Hon. Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury (or Secy to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury), to The Commissioners of His Majesty's Mint (Phillip Loyd, Thomas Neale, Charles Duncombe & James Hoare). This item turned up in Seaby's Bulletin of October 1975 on page 342 in a "List of Royal Mint Records transferred to the Public Record Office in October 1969", a serial listing for many months. The letter asks the Commissioners of the Mint to "discourse Mr. Blathwayte upon the subject"; Mr. Blathwayte was in the service of The Lords of the Committee for Trade and Plantations.

It seems to me that this letter describes the Boston coinage as an ongoing operation the key phrase being "to continue or sett aside", (emphasis added):

Gentlemen:

The Lords Comissioners of his Majestys Treas^y -
being informed that a Mint has hitherto beene
kept up and imployed at Boston in New England
for Coyning of money different in value & allay
from that of England, And that it is now in
his Majestys power to continue or sett aside
the further exercise of such a Mint, as shall be
found most requisite for his service, - Their
Lord^{sps} direct you to consider of this matter
and report your opinion to them thereon,
And their Lord^{sps} do desire you & thinke it will be for his
Majestys service that you discourse Mr. -
Blathwayte upon this subject.

I am Gentl^{en}

Your most humble serv^t

24 Nov^r 1684

Hen. Guy

It is odd that the incomplete quotation from the letter of 24 November 1684 was thought by Crosby to be the Rosetta Stone for determining the termination date, whereas the exact language of the 24 November 1684 letter also appeared in another letter (dated 22 November 1684) available to Crosby and quoted by him on page 87! Despite this language Crosby concluded that the Boston mint was NOT an ongoing operation.

A facsimile reproduction of this letter (in reduced size) is presented on page 548.

Its full reference is:

MINT 13 223 X/k.3622; Crown Copyright
Public Record Office
Chancery Lane
London WC2A 1LR England



Gentlemen,

The Lords Commissioners of his Majestys Treasury —
 being informed that a Mint has hitherto been
 kept up and imployed at Boston in New England
 for Coining of money different in value & alloy
 from that of England, And that it is now in
 his Majestys power to continue or sett aside
 the further exercise of such a Mint as shall be
 found most requisite for his service; Their
 Lordps direct you to consider of this matter
 and report your opinion to them therein,
 And their Lordps ^{desire you} thinke it will be for his
 Majestys service that you discourse ^{of} ~~all~~ ^{the}
 Blackwayte upon this Subject.

I am Gent^l.

Treas^r Hamb.
 24. Nov^r. 1684.

Your most humble serv^t
 Hon. Guy:

● ● CROSBY'S "MISSING LETTER" of 24 NOVEMBER 1684 ● ●

Reference:

MINT 13 223 X/k. 3622; Crown Copyright
 Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1LR England

ANOTHER TRACE of H. N. RUST

(RF-21G)

● ● from John M. Sallay; Cambridge, Mass.

I recently purchased a copy of Evan's Illustrated History of the United States Mint (the 1886 edition) at a small coin shop in Worchester, Mass. and found some newspaper clippings of the period pasted on the first few pages. All of them were interesting, but one - in particular - dealt with the New Haven "Fugio" Restrikes and Horatio N. Rust who has been mentioned from time to time in CNL. I have no way of knowing the exact date of the article or where it was published, but my guess is in the mid-1880's in the Boston area. A few other clippings pasted in the book are from the Boston Journal of April 14, 1879 and The New England Grocer of a late December issue, 1882.

The following is a reproduction of the newspaper clipping:

THE FIRST CENT.

Major Rust Tells of a Historic Copper in His Possession.

April 21st, 1787, congress directed that the board of treasury "be authorized to contract for three hundred tons of copper coin of the Federal standard agreeable to the proposition of Mr. James Jarvis.

July 6th, 1787 on the report of a committee it was

"Resolved, That the board of treasury direct the contractor for the copper coinage to stamp on one side of each piece the following, viz.: Thirteen circles linked together. A small circle in the middle with the words United States round it; and in the center the words, we are one. On the other side of the same piece the following device, viz.: A dial, with the hours expressed on the face of it. A meridian sun above, on one side of which is to be the word 'Fugio' and on the other side the year in figures, 1787; below the dial the words, 'Mind Your Business.'"

A large number of these coins were issued and have been generally known as the Ring or Franklin cent. Fifty years ago they were common in circulation. The first coins were struck in New York City and later in New Haven, Conn., and Rupert, Vt. The dies were made by Abel Buel of New Haven, Conn. In 1860 the undersigned, being interested in old coin and having heard that this coinage had been done in New Haven, Conn., I decided to

spend one day in New Haven in trying to learn something of this coinage and if possible find the dies. Arriving from New York in the morning, I visited the newspaper offices, first inquiring for any information concerning the coinage. I spent the day in a vain search for information. At evening I find myself in the eastern part of New Haven with a coin collector who in answer to my enquiry, said: "I had never thought of this before but Broom & Platt, general jobbers in hardware, had a contract for a part of that coinage and the strong box and other effects belonging to that house are in a hardware store on Chappel street." Also told that while Broom & Platt were doing the coinage that, they being insolvent, they were liable to arrest if they passed off their hands.

I immediately visited the store and found a pair of the dies used as paper weights on the cashier's desk. I found they had two pairs and one odd die. I was told that the other die had been loaned to a man in Bridgeport and never returned. I purchased the dies, took them to Waterbury, Conn., and struck several hundred for cabinet specimens. I had one struck in gold and several in silver and for many years used them as exchanges in collecting coins.

I printed an account of finding the dies on a slip, which I gave with each restrike, that all might know what they were. After coming to California I sold the dies to a coin collector in Philadelphia.

Recently I noticed in an eastern paper that a Ring cent in gold had been found. Probably it is the one I struck in 1860.

H. N. RUST.

I cannot say whether the material contained within this clipping adds any new information to the history of Horatio N. Rust, but perhaps our Patrons will find it of interest.

- Editor's note: This article appears to be a first hand account written by H.N.Rust (now credited with the rank of Major) of his "discovery" of Fugio Dies at the old Broom & Platt store in New Haven, Connecticut. Toward the end of the article are two comments that lead ye Editor to think that the clipping may have been from a west coast (California) newspaper "...After coming to California I sold the dies to a coin collector in Philadelphia ..." and "... Recently I noticed in an eastern paper ...".

There have been numerous references and articles in CNL since the original publication of RF-21 "Who was H.N.Rust?" (CNL, pps. 221, 234, 248, 269, 279, 280, 299 & 342) and we hope that someday enough such Traces of Horatio will come to light to permit an accurate reconstruction of his association with the "New Haven Restrikes" of the Fugio Cents of 1787.

JCS



- ● A NEW MASSACHUSETTS CENT of 1787 -- Variety 2a-E (TN-59)
from David W. Drumm; Hudson, Mass.

A new Massachusetts copper has been discovered, the 2a-E ! An AU-50 specimen, the finest known 2a, makes the attribution unmistakable. I personally own the Dr. Hall 2b-E, a VG specimen, which turns out to be a 2a-E. Although the star and arrowhead are spread out through wear, the letter bases are clearly unrecut like the AU-50 specimen and like the only other "E" I've examined, a late die state in fine condition.

The distribution between 2a's and 2b's is of course unknown. I hope to be able to obtain a photograph of the new 2a-E specimen so that our Patrons can assist in determining the relative distribution.



The DESIGNS for the UNKNOWN COINAGE of CAROLINA

(RF-45B)

In the original question regarding RF-45, The Unknown Coinage for Carolina (CNL, p.399) we listed S.S. Crosby's statement as it appeared on page 144 of his book "The Early Coins of America, & etc.". Then in a subsequent issue (CNL, p.419) we presented the remarks of Mr. Raymond Williamson relative to the participation of John Hinckley Mitchell in a followup attempt to produce the Carolina coinage.

Now we have received from Mr. Eric P. Newman of St. Louis, Missouri, two designs that were found in the Birmingham Assay Office, Birmingham, England, among the Matthew Boulton correspondence. These sketches were found loose and it is uncertain which specific letters they may have accompanied. Each of the original sketches is about seven inches in diameter and has been photographically reduced for the illustrations.



State seal



There can be little doubt that these designs were intended for the Carolina coinage! In his 25 August 1787 letter (CNL, p.419) John Hinckley Mitchell stated "... I had intended to have transmitted to your Excell'y a few half pence struck on purpose - with the arms of the State of South Carolina - as a more proper specimen of my intentions, and had taken measures for that purpose, but had not had time to execute them before the vessel sailed which conveys this to your Excell'y. ..." Compare these two designs with the sketch of the State Seal of South Carolina as illustrated directly above!

This official Seal was adopted in 1805 following the original design of 1776. The oval on the left side of the seal displays a palmetto with an uprooted oak at its base symbolizing the successful defense in 1776 of a palmetto-log fort on Sullivan's Island against the oaken ships of the British, and the 12 spears bound to the trunk of the palmetto honor the other 12 colonies that fought in the Revolution. The oval on the right shows the figure of Hope carrying a laurel branch and walking across a beach strewn with swords and daggers symbolizing South Carolinas wish to remain forever independent in spite of dangers. And thus - today - we know with reasonable certainty the general design for the Unknown Coinage for Carolina.

There is also in "Crosby" yet another discussion on this subject that appears on page 367. As our Patrons realize, Crosby's book was printed and issued in sections over an extended period of time and in a few cases material that should have been included in an early section appeared later in one of the final sections. This is one of those cases and the material was overlooked at the time the RF-45 question was originally presented. To complete the story we are reproducing that material from Crosby's book, as follows:

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The following, relating to the proposed coinage for South Carolina, was received from Mr. Bushnell, but not in season to be given in its proper place; we therefore present it in an additional chapter.

"In the year 1785, Mr. Charles Borrell made a proposal to the Legislature of South Carolina to coin 20,000 pounds in silver, and 10,000 pounds in copper for the use of the State, the petitioner agreeing to receive and accept the paper money of the State in exchange. This proposal being accepted, an ordinance was passed on the twenty-second day of March, 1786, granting the privilege to Mr. Borrell, and the Governor of the State was authorized to designate the device and legend for the coins. Mr. Borrell thereupon proceeded to Europe, and made a contract in Switzerland for the amount, and in a letter to Mr. Lewis Newhouse, of Charleston, dated July 21, 1786, he says, 'Be pleased to assure His Excellency, the Governor, that when you receive this, there will be on the way to Charleston, from One Thousand to Fifteen Hundred Louis d'ors, to be presented to the Treasury, and, after examination, a certificate, in due form, must be obtained, approving and declaring these monies to be just and conformable to the ordinance, and that in consequence, the State will receive the surplus.'

"A Louis d'or is 24 livres, equal to about \$4.444. * * * * * This is all I have been able to learn respecting this coinage, the authority for which is given below.

"An Ordinance respecting Silver and Copper Coins.

"Whereas a proposal has been made by Mr. Charles Borrell, for coining a quantity of silver and copper money, and paying the same into the Treasury in exchange for the paper medium of this State;

"Be it therefore ordained by the Honorable, the Senate and the House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by authority

of the same, That if the said Charles Borrell shall, within Fifteen Months next ensuing, import into this State, copper coin, to the amount in value, of ten thousand pounds sterling, one moiety, in pieces of the value of one penny each, and the other moiety in pieces of the value of half a penny each, according to the standard of British half-pence, and silver coin to the value of Twenty Thousand pounds sterling, that is to say, Three fourths in pieces to the value of one shilling each, and the other fourth in pieces of the value of six pence each, which pieces shall be of the same weight as English shillings and sixpences, and contain an alloy proportioned to that of the French Crowns, and shall be impressed, stamped, and made with the figures, words, and devices, and in such way and manner as the Governor shall direct, and shall be respectively called a penny, a half-penny, a shilling and a sixpence; and if the said coin shall on being assayed in the presence of the Treasurer be found to be of the value above mentioned, according to the standard aforesaid, which the Governor, on a certificate thereof from the Treasurers shall cause to be notified by proclamation, the Treasurers shall and may receive the same in exchange for the paper medium of this State and give the said medium in exchange for the said coin; and that the said coin shall be the lawful money of this State, receivable and issuable as such, at the value aforesaid, in all payments at and from the Treasury, and a tender in law according to the rates and value aforesaid, in satisfaction of all private contracts, and that the counterfeiting, clipping, defacing, or debasing the same, shall be felony, without the benefit of clergy.

"In the Senate House, the twenty-second day of March, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Six.

"John Lloyd,

"President of the Senate.

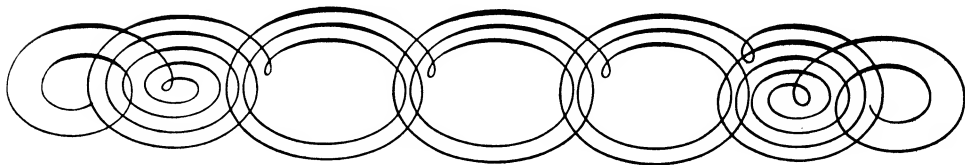
"John Fauchereaud,

"Speaker of the House of Representatives."

We will conclude with a paragraph already printed on page 144:—

"Charleston, S. C. Sept. 29.

"Government has received information that Mr. Borel has completed his contract of coinage for this State, in Switzerland, and may be soon expected here by the way of London. The stipulation was for 30,000 l. in silver and copper, to be exchanged for the paper medium."



DISCOVERY of an UNPUBLISHED DIE COMBINATION of a
NEW JERSEY COPPER of 1786 --- Maris 16-S ---

(TN-60)

●● from Stanley Sherr & Norman Pullen; Robbinsville, N.J.

We wish to report a new muling of two previously known dies associated with the Rahway Mint and probably made by James F. Atlee. This new die variety has been designated Maris 16-S. Previously, the Maris 16 obverse dated 1786 has been known only in combination with reverses d, J and L while the S reverse has been known only with obverses 25, 26, 27 and 28 dated 1786 and 1787. The S reverse die is easily recognized by the heart shape of the shield as shown in Figure 2.



Maris 16-S

Figure 1



Figure 2



"Protruding Tongue"

Figure 3

This new specimen of Maris 16-S is a glossy brown 35 in grade and illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. The S reverse always appears stronger than the accompanying obverses. Furthermore, this obverse is from an early state of the die. The later die state, as usually encountered, is often called the "protruding tongue" variety as illustrated in Figure 3. It is also identified by a large die break at the 2 o'clock position. Neither defect can be seen in the discovery specimen now in the Pullen collection.